GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1194
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006
FACILITIES FOR HEART PATIENTS IN RURAL AREAS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of persons dying of heart attack in rural areas of the country is on the rise;

(b) if so, whether the Government is aware of the World Health Organisation sponsored survey report of Bairaju Foundatiion, Hyderabad and George Institute of International Health on the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide ultra modern facilities in rural areas for prevention and treatment of heart attack;

(e) if so, the details in this regard;

(f) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a scheme to provide financial assistance for heart surgery to the people belonging to the lower income group of the society; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), more number of patients with heart diseases from rural areas are reporting at secondary and tertiary hospitals. However, no long term epidemiological study on heart diseases has been carried out in the rural areas to indicate that the number of heart patients is increasing in the country over a period of time.

(b) & (c) : The survey report of Bairaju Foundations, Hyderabad and George Institute of International health is not funded by World Health Organisation. The Andhra Pradesh Burden of Diseases study in collaboration of Bairaju Foundation, Hyderabad identified that Cardio Vascular diseases are the leading cause of mortality in men and women living in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) & (e) : No, Sir. However the Government proposes to initiate and implement a National Programme for the prevention and control of Cardio Vascular Diseases (CVD) and Diabetes to reduce the adverse health impact of heart diseases, stroke and diabetes which includes among others strengthening of infrastructure and provision of diagnostic equipments. The emphasis would be on risk assessment, early detections and prevention along with the cost effective clinical care and strengthening of health care facilities in urban, perl-urban and rural areas.

(f) & (g) : Under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, financial assistance is provided to patients, living below poverty line suffering from major life threatening diseases (including heart ailments), to receive medical treatment at any of the super specialty hospitals.